TAFT SENDS IN **MESSAGE ABOUT** FOREIGN AFFAIRS

**President Informs Congress of Our Relations With Other** Nations.

# AMERICAN DIPLOMACY WINS

Its Success in Settling Central American Troubles.

## DIPLOMATIC SERVICE BETTER

Reorganization Has Done Much to Increase Its Efficiency-Adjustment of the Sealing and Figheries Disputes-Interests of United States in the Near and Far East.

Washington, Dec. 8 .--- President Taft submitted to congress today the first of several messages. It was devoted to our foreign relations and in part Was as follows:

To the Senate and House of Reprecontatives: The foreign relations of the United States actually and potentially affect the state of the Union to a degree not widely realized and hardly surpassed by any other factor in the welfare of the whole nation. The position of the United States in the moral, intellectual, and material relations of the family of nations should be a matter of vital interest to every patriotic citizen. The national prosperity and power impose upon us duties which we can not shirk if we are to be true to our ideals. The tremendous growth of the export trade of the United States has already made that trade a very real factor in the industrial and commercial prosperity of the country. With the development of our industries the foreign commerce of the United States must rapidly become a still more essential factor in its economic welfare. Whether we have a far seeing and wise diplomacy and are not recklessly plunged into unnecesary wars, and whether our forsign policies are based upon an intelligent grasp of present-day world conditions and a clear view of the potentialities of the future, or are governed by a temporary and timid expediency or by narrow views befitting an infant nation, are questions in the alternative consideration of which must convince any thoughtful citizen that no department of national polity offers greater opportunity for promoting the interests of the whole people on the one hand, or greater chance on the other of permanent national inury, than that which deals with the foreign relations of the United States.

The fundamental foreign policies of appointments as consul which have the United States should be raise

American affairs and of far eastern. near eastern and western European affairs. To these divisions were called from the foreign service diplomatic and consular officers possessing experience and knowledge gained by actual service in different parts of the world and thus familiar with political and commercial conditions in the regions concerned. The work was highly specialized. The result is that where previously this government from time to time would emphasize in its foreign relations one or another policy, now American interests in every quarter of the globe are being cultivated with equal assiduity. Merit System In Consular and Diplomatio Corps.

Expert knowledge and professional training must evidently be the essence of this reorganization. Without a trained foreign service there would not be men available for the work in the reorganized department of state. President Cleveland has taken the first step toward introducing the merit system in the foreign service. That had been followed by the application of the merit principle, with excellent results, to the entire consular branch. Almost nothing, however, had been done in this direction with regard to the diplomatic service. In this age of commercial diplomacy it was evidently of the first importance to train an adequate personnel in that branch of the service. Therefore, on November 26, 1909, by an executive order I placed the diplomatic service up to the grade of secretary of embassy, inclusive, upon exactly the same strict non-partisan basis of the merit system, rigid examination for appoint ment and promotion only for efficiency, as had been maintained without exception in the consular service. Statistics as to Merit and Nonpartisan

Character of Appointments. How faithful to the merit system and how nonpartisan has been the conduct of the diplomatic and consular services in the last four years may be judged from the following: Three ambassadors now serving held their present rank at the beginning of the dministration. Of the ten ambassadors whom I have appointed, five were by promotion from the rank of minster. Nine ministers now serving held their present rank at the beginning of the administration. Of the thirty ministers whom I have appointed, eleven were promoted from the lower grades of the foreign service or from the department of state. Of the nineteen missions in Latin America. where our relations are close and our interest is great, fifteen chiefs of mission are service men, three having entered the service during this administration. The thirty-seven secretaries of embassy or legation who have received their initial appointments after passing successfully the required examination were chosen for ascertained fitness, without regard to political affiliations. A dearth of candidates from southern and western states has alone made it impossible thus far completely to equalize all the states' representations in the forreferred, has been a most potent and eign service. In the effort to equalize beneficent factor. the representation of the various states in the consular service I have made sixteen of the twenty-nine new

i here were created divisions of Latin- | strategy, and to legitimate commercial aims. It is an effort frankly directed to the increase of American trade upon the axiomatic principle that the government of the United States shall extend all proper support to every legitimate and beneficial American enterprise abroad. How great have been the results of this diplomacy, coupled with the maximum and minimum provision of the tariff law, will be seen by some consideration of the wonderful increase in the export trade of the United States. Because modern diplomacy is commercial, there has been a disposition in some guarters to attribute to it none but materialistic aims. How strikingly erroneous is such an impression may be seen from a study of the results by which the diplomacy of the United States can be judged.

Successful Efforts in Promotion of Peace. In the field of work toward the ideals of peace this government negotiated, but to my regret was unable to consummate, two arbitration treaties which set the highest mark of the appiration of nations toward the substitution of arbitration and reason for war in the settlement of international disputes. Through the efforts of American diplomacy several wars have been prevented or ended. I refer to the successful tripartite mediation of the Argentine republic, Brazil, and the United States between Peru and Ecuador: the bringing of the boundary dispute between Panama and Costa Rica to peaceful arbitration; the staying of warlike preparations when Havti and the Dominican republic were on the verge of hostilities; the stopping of a war in Nicaragua; the halting of internecine strife in Honduras. The government of the United States was thanked for its influence toward the restoration of amicable relations between the Argentine republic and Bolivia. The diplomacy of the United States is active in seeking to assuage the remaining ill-feeling between this country and the Republic of Colombia. In the recent Civil war in China the United States successfully joined with the other interested powers in urging an early cessation of hostilities. An agreement has been reached between the governments of Chile and Peru whereby the celebrated Tacna-Arica dispute, which has so long embittered international relations on the west coast of South America, has at last been adjusted. Simultaneously came the news that the boundary dispute between Peru and Ecuador had entered upon a stage of amicable settlement. The position of the United States in reference to the Tacna-Arica dispute between Chile and Peru has been one of nonintervention, but one of friendly influence and pacific counsel throughout the period during which the dispute in question has been the subject of interchange of views between this government and the two governments immediately concerned. In the general easing of international tension on the west coast of South America the tripartite mediation, to which I have

China. In China the policy of encouraging

would remove at one stroke the menace of foreign creditors and the manance of revolutionary disorder.

> The second advantage to the United States is one affecting chiefly all the southern and gulf ports and the business and industry of the south. The republics of Central America and the Caribbean possess great natural wealth. They need only a measure of stability and the means of financial regeneration to enter upon an era of peace and prosperity, bringing profit and happiness to themselves and at the same time creating conditions sure to lead to a flourishing interchange of trade with this country. I wish to call your especial attention to the recent occurrences in Nicaragua, for I believe the terrible events recorded there during the revolution of the past summer-the useless loss of life, the devastation of property,

> the bombardment of defenseless cities, the killing and wounding of women and children, the torturing of noncombatants to exact contributions. and the suffering of thousands of human beings-might have been averted had the department of state. through approval of the loan convention by the senate, been permitted to carry out its now well-developed policy of encouraging the extending of financial aid to weak Central American states with the primary objects of avoiding just such revolutions by assisting those republics to rehabilitate their finances, to establish their currency on a stable basis, to remove the custom houses from the danger of revolutions by arranging for their secure administration, and to establish reliable banks.

During this last revolution in Nica ragua, the government of that republio having admitted its inability to protect American life and property against acts of sheer lawlessness on the part of the malcontents, and having requested this government to assume that office, it became neessary to land over 2.000 marines and bluelackets in Nicaragua. Owing to their presence the constituted government of Nicaragua was free to devote its attention wholly to its internal troubles, and was thus enabled to stamp out the rebellion in a short space of time. When the Red Cross supplies sent to Granada had been exhausted. 8,000 persons having been given food in one day upon the arrival of the American forces, our men supplied other unfortunate, needy Nicaraguans from their own haversacks. I wish to congratulate the officers and men of the United States navy and marine corps who took part in re-establishing order in Nicaragua upon their splen did conduct, and to record with sorrow the death of seven American ma rines and bluejackets. Since the

re-establishment of peace and order, elections have been held amid conditions of quiet and tranquility. Nearly all the American marines have now been withdrawn. The country should soon be on the road to recovery. The only apparent danger now threatening Nicaragua arises from the shortage of funds. Although American bankers have already rendered assistance. they may naturally be loath to ad-

vance a loan adequate to set the country upon its feet without the support financial investment to enable that of some such convention as that of country to help itself has had the re- June, 1911, upon which the senate has

Gacal year 1912 shows that this rate of advance has been maintained, the total domestic exports having a valuation approximately of \$2,200,000,000, as compared with a fraction over \$2,000,000,000 the previous year. It is also significant that manufactured and partly manufactured articles continue to be the chief commodities forming the volume of our augmented exports, the demands of our own people for consumption requiring that an increasing proportion of our abundant agricultural products be kept at home. In the fiscal year 1911 the exports of articles in the various stages of manufacture, not including foodstuffs partly or wholly manufactured, amounted approximately to \$907,500,000. In the fiscal year 1912 the total was nearly \$1,022,000,000, a gain of \$114,000,000. Advantage of Maximum and Minimum Tariff Provision.

The importance which our manufacures have assumed in the commerce of the world in competition with the manufactures of other countries again draws attention to the duty of this government to use its utmost endeavors to secure impartial treatment for American products in all markets. Healthy commercial rivalry in international intercourse is hest assured by the possession of proper means for protecting and promoting our foreign trade. It is natural that competitive countries should view with some concern this steady expansion of our commerce. If in some instances the measure taken by them to meet it are not entirely equitable, a remedy should be found. In former messages I have described the negotiations of the department of state with foreign governments for the adjustment of the maximum and minimum tariff as provided in section 2 of the tariff law of 1909. The advan-

tages secured by the adjustment of our trade relations under this law have continued during the last year. and some additional cases of discriminatory treatment of which we had reason to complain have been removed. The department of state has for the first time in the history of this country obtained substantial most-favored-nation treatment from all the countries of the world. There are, however, other instances which, while apparently not constituting undue discrimination in the sense of section 2, are nevertheless exceptions to the complete equity of tariff treatment for American products that the department of state consistently has

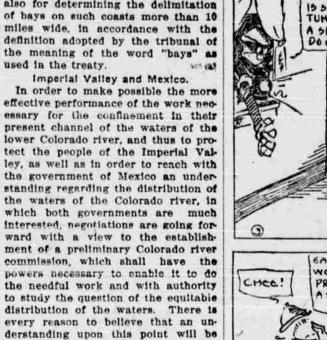
sought to obtain for American commerce abroad. Necessity for Supplementary Leigsla-

lation. These developments confirm the opinion conveyed to you in my annual nessage of 1911, that while the maxmum and minimum provision of the tariff law of 1909 has been fully justified by the success achieved in removing previously existing undue discriminations against American products, yet experience has shown that this feature of the law should be amended in such way as to prevent a fully effective means of meeting the varying degrees of discriminatory treatment of American commerce in foreign countries still encountered, as well as to protect against injurious treatment on the part of foreign governments, through either legislative

der the terms of the convention, upon how far, if at all, it is necessary for protecting and preserving the Ameriani fur-seal herd and for increasing its number. This is a question requiring examination of the present condition of the herd and the treatment which it needs in the light of actual experience and scientific investigation. A careful examination of the subject is now being made, and this government will soon be in popsession of a considerable amount of new information about the American seal herd, which has been secured during the past season and will be of great value in determining this quee tion; and if it should appear that there is any uncertainty as to the real necessity for imposing a close season at this time, I shall take an early opportunity to address a special message to congress on this subject, in the belief that this government should yield on this point rather than give the slightest ground for the charge that we have been in any way remiss in observing our treaty obligations.

Final Settlement of North Atlantic Fisheries Dispute.

On the 20th of July last an agree ment was concluded between the United States and Great Britain adopting, with certain modifications, the rules and method of procedure recommended in the award rendered by the North Atlantic Coast Fisheries Arbitration Tribunal on September 7, 1910, for the settlement hereafter, in accordance with the principles laid down in the award, of questions arising with reference to the exercise of the American fishing liberties under Article I of the treaty of October 20, 1818, between the United States and Great Britain. This agreement received the approval of the senate on August 1 and was for mally ratified by the two governments on November 15 last. The rules and a method of procedure embodied in the award provided for determining by an impartial tribunal the reasonableness of any new fishery regulations on the treaty coasts of Newfoundland and Canada before such regulations could be enforced against American fishermen exercising their treaty liberties on those coasts, and also for determining the delimitation of bays on such coasts more than 10 miles wide, in accordance with the definition adopted by the tribunal of the meaning of the word "bays" as used in the treaty.



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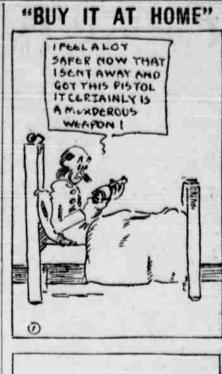
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high above the conflict of partisanship and wholly dissociated from diferences as to domestic policy. In its foreign affairs the United States should present to the world a united front. The intellectual, financial and Industrial interests of the country and the publicist, the wage earner, the farmer, and citizen of whatever occupation must co-operate in a spirit of high patriotism to promote that national solidarity which is indispensable to national efficiency and to the attainment of national ideals.

The relations of the United States with all foreign powers remain upon a sound basis of peace, harmony and friendship. A greater insistence upon justice to American citizens or interests wherever it may have been denied and a stronger emphasis of the need of mutuality in commercial and other relations have only served to strengthen our friendships with forsign countries by placing those friendships upon a firm foundation of realities as well as aspirations.

Before briefly reviewing the more important events of the last year in our foreign relations, which it is my duty to do as charged with their conduct and because diplomatic affairs are not of a nature to make it appropriate that the secretary of state ke a formal annual report, I desire to touch upon some of the essentials to the safe management of the foreign relations of the United States and to endeavor, also, to define clearly certain concrete policies which are the logical modern corrollaries of the undisputed and traditional fundamenis of the foreign policy of the United States.

#### Reorganization of the State Department.

At the beginning of the present administration the United States, having fully entered upon its position as a world power, with the responsibilities thrust upon it by the results of the panish-American war, and already enged in laying the groundwork of a ast foreign trade upon which it hould one day become more and ore dependent, found itself without the machinery for giving thorough atantion to, and taking effective action apon, a mass of intricate business ital to American interests in every ountry in the world.

The department of state was an archaic and inadequate machine lacking most of the attributes of the forign office of any great modern power. With an appropriation made upon my recommendation by the congress on August 5, 1909, the department of to idealistic humanitarian syntiments.

occurred during my administration from the southern states. This is 55 per cent. Every other consular appointment made, including the promotion of eleven young men from the consular assistant and student interpreter corps, has been by promotion or transfer, based solely upon efficiency shown in the service.

In order to assure to the business and other interests of the United States a continuance of the resulting benefits of this reform, I earnestly renew my previous recommendations of legislation making it permanent along some such lines as those of the measure now pending in congress.

Larger Provision for Embassies and Legations and for Other Expenses of Our Foreign Representa-

tives Recommended. In connection with legislation for

the amelioration of the foreign service, I wish to invite attention to the advisability of placing the salary appropriations upon a better basals. believe that the best results would be obtained by a moderate scale of salaries, with adequate funds for the expenses of proper representation. based in each case upon the scale and cost of living at each post, controlled by a system of accounting, and under the general direction of the denartment of state.

In line with the object which I have sought of placing our foreign service on a basis of permanency, I have at various times advocated provision by congress for the acquisition of government-owned buildings for the residence and offices of our diplomatic officers, so as to place them more nearly on an equality with similar officers of other nations and to do away with the discrimination which otherwise must necessarily be made, in some cases, in favor of men having large

private fortunes. The act of congress which I approved on February 17, 1911 was a right step in this direction. The secretary of state has already made the limited recommendations permitted by the act for any one year. and it is my hope that the bill intro-States. It is therefore essential that duced in the house of representatives to carry out these recommendations will be favorably acted on by the congress during its present session.

#### Diplomancy a Handmald of Commer cial Intercourse and Peace.

The diplomancy of the present ad ministration has sought to respond to modern ideas of commercial intercourse. This policy has been characterized as substituting dollars for bullets. It is one that appeals alike state was completely reorganized. I to the dictates of sound policy and

sult of giving new life and practical not yet acted. application to the open-door policy. The consistent purpose of the present administration has been to encourage America and to the unfortunate disthe use of American capital in the development of Caina by the promoturbances in Mexico. Continuing, the message said: tion of those essential reforms to

which China is pledged by treatles Agricultural Credits.

with the United States and other pow-A most important work, accomers. The hypothecation to foreign plished in the past year by the Ameribankers in connection with certain incan diplomatic officers in Europe, is dustrial enterprises, such as the Hukuthe investigation of the agricultural ang railways, of the national revencredit system in the European counues upon which these reforms depend tries. Both as a means to afford relief ed, led the department of state early to the consumers of this country in the administration to demand for through a more thorough develop-American citizens participation in ment of agricultural resources and as such enterprises, in order that the a means of more sufficiently maintain-United States might have equal rights ing the agricultural population, the and an equal voice in all questions project to establish credit facilities for portaining to the disposition of the the farmers is a concern of vital impublic revenues concerned. The same portance to this nation. No evidence policy of promoting international acof prosperity among well-established cord among the powers having similar farmers should blind us to the fact treaty rights as ourselves in the mat that lack of capital is preventing a ters of reform, which could not be development of the nation's agriculput into practical effect without the tural resources and an adequate incommon consent of all was likewise crease of the land under cultivation; adopted in the case of the loan de that agricultural production is fast sired by China for the reform of its falling behind the increase in populacurrency. The principle of internation; and that, in fact, although these tional co-operation in matters of comwell-established farmers are mainmon interest upon which our policy tained in increasing prosperity behad already been based in all of the cause of the natural increase in popuabove instances has admittedly been lation, we are not developing the ina great factor in that concert of the dustry of agriculture. We are not powers which has been so happily breeding in proportionate numbers a conspicuous during the perilous period race of independent and independenceof transition through which the great loving land owners, for a lack of Chinese nation has been passing. which no growth of citles can com-Central America Needs Our Heip in pensate. Our farmers have been our Debt Adjustment. nainstay in times of crisis, and in

In Central America the aim has future it must still largely be upon been to help such countries as Nicatheir stability and common sense that ragua and Honduras to help themthis domocracy must rely to conserve selves. They are the immediate beneits principles of self-government. ficiaries. The national benefit to the The need of capital which American United States is two-fold. First, it is farmers feel today had been experiobvious that the Monroe doctrine is enced by the farmers of Europe, with more vital in the neighborhood of the ago. The problem had been success-Panama canal and the zone of the their centuries-old farms, many years Caribbean than anywhere else. There, fully solved in the old world and it too, the maintenance of that doctrine was evident that the farmers of this falls most heavily upon the United country might profit by a study of

the countries within that sphere shall be removed from the jeopardy involved by heavy foreign debt and chaotic "national finances and from the everpresent danger of international complications due to disorder at home. Hence the United States has been glad to encourage and support American bankers who were willing to lend a helping hand to the financial re-

habilitation of such coutries because this financial rehabilitation and the protection of their custom houses from being the prey of would be dictators

person in a bee-hive hat, just from

of administrative measures, the financial interests abroad of American cit-The president alluded briefly to the izens whose enterprises enlarge the enforcement of neutrality laws, to market for American commoditiees. Secretary Knox's visit to Central

I can not too strongly recommend to congress the passage of some such enabling measure as the bill which was recommended by the secretary of state in his letter of December 13, 1911. The object of the proposed legislation is, in brief, to enable the executive to apply,

as the case may require, to any or all commodities, whether or not on the free list from a country which discriminates against the United States, a graduated scale of duties up to the maximum of 25 per cent. ad valorem provided in the present law. Flat tariffs are out of date. M

Special Claims Arbitration With Great Britain.

The special agreement entered into between the United States and Great Britain on August 18, 1910, for the arbitration of outstanding pecuniary claims, a schedule of claims and the terms of submission have been agreed upon by the two governments, and together with the special agreement were approved by the senate on July 19, 1911, but in accordance with the terms of the agreement they did not go in'o effect until confirmed by the two governments by an exchange of notes, which was done on April 26 last. Negotistions are still in progress for a supplemental schedule of claims to be submitted to arbitration under this agreement, and meanwhile the necessary preparations for the arbitration of the claims included in the first schedule have been undertaken and are being carried on under the authority of an appropriation made for that purpose at the last session of congress. It is anticipated that the two governments will be prepared to call upon the arbitration tribunal, established under this agreement, to meet at Washington early next year to proceed with this arbitration.

### Fur Seal Treaty and Need for Amendment of Our Statute.

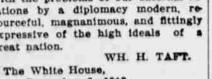
The act adopted at the last session their systems. I therefore ordered, of Congress to give effect to the furthrough the department of state, an seal convention of July 1, 1911, beinvestigation to be made by the diplotween Great Britain, Japan, Russia matic officers in Europe, and I have and the United States, provided for laid the results of this investigation the suspension of all land killing of seals on the Pribilof Islands for a pebefore the governors of the various states with the hope that they will riod of five years, and an objection be used to advantage in their forthhas now been presented to this provision by the other parties in interest, which raises the issue as to In my last annual message I said whether or not this prohibition of land that the fiscal year ended June 30, killing is inconsistent with the spirit. 1911, was noteworthy as marking the if not the letter, of the treaty stipu highest record of exports of American lations. The justification for estabproducts to foreign countries. The lishing this close season depends, un-

reached and that an agreement will be signed in the near future. The message told what the govern

ment has done in connection with the Balkan war and in placing the government of Liberia in position to pay its debts. The new condition of affairs in China was set forth, and then our relations with Central and South American governments were set forth in more detail. It concluded as follows:

Congress should fully realize the conditions which obtain in the world as we find ourselves at the threshold of our middle age as a nation. We have emerged full grown as a peer in the great concourse of nations. We have passed through various forma tive periods. We have been self-centered in the struggle to develop our domestic resources and deal with our domestic questions. The nation is

now too mature to continue in its foreign relations those temporary expedients natural to a people to whom domestic affairs are the sole concern. In the past our diplomacy has often consisted, in normal times, in a mere assertion of the right to international existence. We are now in a larger relation with broader rights of our own and obligations to others than ourselves. A number of great guiding principles were laid down early in the history of this government. The recent task of our diplomacy has been to adjust those principles to the con ditions of today, to develop their corollaries, to find practical applications of the old principles expanded to meet new situations. Thus are being evolved bases upon which can rest the superstructure of policies which must grow with the destined progress of this nation. The successful conduct of our foreign relations demands a broad and a modern view. We can not meet new questions nor build for the future if we confine ourselves to outworn dogmas of the past and to the perspective appropriate at our emergence from colonial times and conditions. The opening of the Panama canal will mark a new era in our international life and create new and world-wide conditions which, with their vast correlations and conse quences, will obtain for hundreds of years to come. We must not wait for events to overtake us unawares. With continuity of purpose we must deal with the problems of our external relations by a diplomacy modern, resourceful, magnanimous, and fittingly expressive of the high ideals of a great nation.



December 8, 1912.

AND THEN THE WORM TURNED

Is , Remark Really More Than Suffering ; Street Car Passenger Could Stand Without Complaint.

At either end of a seat in a Broad at the far end smoking a very as it very fat, but its hat was fat gory to right or left. rith feathers, its fingers were fat | The car stopped to the on a small

with many jeweled rings, its necl was fat with beads and its corsage was superfatted with chains, lorgnottes, vanity (!) boxes and falls of inco. It was in fact so fat and so acway open car was an individual, the curately placed in the exact center of the seat that between it and the had cigarette. Midway between these two individuals at the ends there was two sat something very fat. Not only not room for the thinnest of passen-

rehearsal. She inventoried the car gentleman with a scathing glance. with the sweeping glance of the ex-"Kindly move over." said she to him with considerable acidity. perienced New Yorker and picked the

coming meeting.

Increase of Foreign Trade.

seat. Then she swept the cigarette

The gentleman had paid no atten seat containing the individuals above enumerated as offering the best tion to her shovings and wrigglings, chances for room, seeing that it held since he was too tightly jammed but three, counting the one in the against the rail to have them matter middle as only one passenger. one way or the other. But this was The newcomer insinuated her small too much. He slowly turned and frame between Mrs. Fatness and the looked at her, preasing his lips togethman with the bad cigarette. She er on one side to hold the cigarette wriggled, pried and shoved, but got in safety. Then he growled: "Kind-

no further than halfway back in the iy direct your remark to the dime it looked like a regular egg until a but we'll call it my mistaka

York Press.

**Burely Queen of All Hens.** A certain industrious hen, interest

ed in the welfare of Petaluma, Cal., has gone so far in her efforts to spread the renown of the city of eggs and brollers that she recently placed four yolks in one shell. Her zealous ness was discovered by a firm of egg merchants, Whitcomb & Baker. The

museum thing on your right"-New candle gave an X-ray view of four small yolks. A hunt is still being made to locate the hen. In the same ship ment were a number of other eggs containing two yolks, but the egg

> Willing to Overlook It. Victim-Say, durn ye. you've pulled the wrong tooth!

Dentist-From the way you hollered egg was slightly larger than normal. I thought I had hold of the right one

Changed. "Politics are different than they used to be in the old days." "Yes, indeed. The invention of the

dictograph and the telegraphone has made it so that a politician is always in danger."

An Interesting Item. "What's in the news?"

"I see a New York man was cured of dyspepsia, gave \$200,000 to the hospital that cured him, and then went and spent \$200,000 more for a square meal."

with the four yolks is said to break all records.